

COMING UP...

SEPTEMBER 6 - SEPTEMBER 13

Sunday, September 6
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
Holy Communion

Monday, September 7
The church office will be closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Tuesday, September 8
1:00 p.m. Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting

Wednesday, September 9
Noon Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Zoom (EPEC) Bible Study

Thursday, September 10
Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, September 13
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
UMM meeting following worship service



-The sanctuary flowers are given by Jeanne Guilbeault to the Glory of God and in memory of Hank Guilbeault.

CONTACT US

2400 Devonshire Drive
Columbus, GA 31904

Church Office (706) 322-6973
Pastor's Cell (706) 992-9147
www.epworthumc.com

toni@epworthumc.com
(example: earnestine@epworthumc.com)

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus>
Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/epworthumchurchepworthumccolumbus1430>

CONTACTING YOU

Most of the church's communication is through e-mail. We send three e-mails each week—a newsletter on Monday, an email from the pastor and an email reminder of Sunday worship. We also use e-mail to send important meeting reminders and other information. Help us contact you by ensuring the church office has your current e-mail address.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

*Epworth's members are our ministers.
The professional staff who assist us are:*

Administrator Assistant.....Toni Thomas
Children's Ministry DirectorJas'Min Vontoure
Children's Ministry AssistantWhitney Mennifee
Custodians.....Martha Conklin
Barbie Webb
Media TechTristan Campbell
Music Director.....Bob Lee
Nursery WorkerMartha Conklin
PastorRev. Earnestine Campbell
Praise & Worship Director..... Mandi Battle



September 6, 2026

"COMMUNION SUNDAY"

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

An Open Table: How United Methodists Understand Communion

During a confirmation class, the pastor asked a group of mostly 13- and 14-year-old students to name some things Christians — and specifically United Methodists — do that most other people do not. One of the girls raised her hand and said with a smile, "We dunk our bread in grape juice."

Yes, that is different.

The sacrament of Holy Communion is such a common occurrence in the landscape of our worship that its uncommon richness sometimes gets lost.

One sacrament, several names...

The Lord's Supper, Holy Communion and the Eucharist are all names for this sacrament celebrated by United Methodists. Each of these names highlights an aspect of this act of worship.

According to This Holy Mystery, The United Methodist Church's official document on communion, "The Lord's Supper reminds us that Jesus Christ is the host and that we participate at Christ's invitation." Jesus invites us to take part in the special meal he ate with his disciples the night before his crucifixion, and other meals he shared in homes and on hillsides.

"The term Holy Communion invites us to focus on the self-giving of the Holy God which makes the sacrament an occasion of grace, and on the holiness of our communion with God and one another," This Holy Mystery continues.

Finally, "Eucharist, from the Greek word for thanksgiving, reminds us that the sacrament is thanksgiving to God for the gifts of creation and salvation."

Regular communion

The vast majority of United Methodist congregations in the United States (97% in the most recent study) now celebrate the Lord's Supper at least once per month. This Holy Mystery and The United Methodist Book of Worship encourage weekly communion.

The Services of Word and Table in the front of The United Methodist Hymnal lead us in celebrating the fullness of the sacrament.

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/an-open-table-how-united-methodists-understand-communion>

We hope to see you in church on Sunday and you are welcome to invite someone to come with you.

In Christ,

Pastor Earnie



Epworth connects and equips all kinds of people to SEEK, SERVE, and SHARE Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:00 AM

The Nathan Patterson Class

Study: Proverbs 2
Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Life Lessons From ACTS
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Donny Davis

THOSE WHO SERVE

September 6, 2026

Ushers: David Hay
Financial Secretary: John Grandon
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

August 30, 2026

Tithes & Offerings:	\$5,550.00
Received To Date:	\$156,384.63
Needed To Date:	\$164,882.08

Attendance:	
Sunday School	7
In-person Sunday Worship	54
Online Viewers	88
Total	142

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Breandon Kane	22 Michele Lancaster
8 Evans Cheraisi	Steve Whittington
9 Belinda Lias	23 Kelly Conkle
11 Earlene Gresham	25 Sandra Burns
Tristan Campbell	Gracie Conkle
13 Joe Macon	27 Jeanne Guilbeault
15 Janice Tomlin	Matthew Ralls
16 Jackie Weese	28 Stacey Pruett
18 Glenn Griffin	29 Audrey Kernodle
19 Jason Conklin	
Jerry Williams	
20 Natalie Morris	

STAY CONNECTED

In-Person & Livestreaming Worship - Join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Options for worshipping by livestream are: Put the name epworthumc first: facebook.com/epworthcolumbus or youtube.com/channel/UCZJhDYHDdeE-dnv5a5nQKjA as close to 10:30 a.m. as possible or as close to the time of other livestream services.

BIBLE STUDIES

Join us on 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesdays for Bible Study at 1:15 p.m. and on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at noon. 6:30 p.m. EPEC Bible study classes will still take place every Wednesday. We are studying from the book "*Revelation (Life Change)*." Visit the church office to purchase a copy for \$15, or include it in your offertory envelope. Be sure to mark Bible study book on the envelope.

NATHAN PATTERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Ever wondered why someone hasn't written a practical guide for effective living? The good news is someone did - his name was Solomon and the book of the Bible is Proverbs! We will be taking a deep dive into it, chapter by chapter, on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Nathan Patterson Sunday School class. Please join us!

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Christian sympathy is extended to Frank Karastury, whose granddaughter, Nicole "Nikki" E. Karastury, passed away on Monday, August 17, 2026.

Please be in contact with Frank and in prayer for the entire family'.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.



MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER MISSION

September Mission Opportunity - Our September mission is Casseroles for a Cause. We will need the following items: 50 cans of Cream of Chicken soup (pull-tab cans, please), 1 lb bags of white rice, and Ritz style crackers. Monetary donations will help purchase the perishable items for our casseroles. As always, your support is greatly appreciated!

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, September 8, at 1:00 p.m. All Epworth members are invited and encouraged to invite friends to come out for support and encouragement. For more information, contact Martha Conklin at 706-329-0629 or Vonna Franks at 423-902-6134.

UMM GROUP MEETING

The United Methodist Men's (UMM) Group meet the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting is September 13, immediately following the Worship Service. We will meet in the Nathan Patterson classroom. All men are invited!

IT'S A PARTY!

You're invited ... to a party! Epworth will sponsor a casserole making "party" on Tuesday, September 15 at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come help us make 25+ casseroles! No need to RSVP - just come and join us! - Epworth Mission Team Committee

T-SHIRT SUNDAYS

Each last Sunday of the month, you are invited to wear a spiritual T-shirt, your favorite team's T-shirt, etc. - a T-shirt that brings you joy in the Lord! Our next T-shirt Sunday is September 27.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

66TH CHURCH HOMECOMING

2026 Theme: "Let's Celebrate Who We Are Now!"
Scripture: John 15:1-4 NIV

Epworth's 66th Church Homecoming is on Sunday, September 27, 2026! Join us for a joyful celebration during the worship service at 10:30 a.m. A delicious meal will be provided immediately after service with the Congregation to provide favorite dishes, drinks, and desserts; church to supply meat.

Food, setup, and cleanup volunteer sheets will be posted on the office window. Please sign up so we know what you're bringing and what help will be given.

Children's church is always available, with fun and games. Come and be a part of this special occasion and invite others!

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference - Thursday, September 17, at 6:45 p.m. Presiding, Reverend Jeff Cook, Northwest District Superintendent.

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Kick off the Fall Season with Loads of Fall Fun! Our Annual Fall Festival will be on Saturday, October 31, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We'll have fun, food, and Trunk or Treating! Volunteers are needed. Inflatables, games, face painting, popcorn/cotton candy and more! Further information upcoming. Contact person is Jas'Min Vontoure.

QUESTORS CLASSROOM RESERVED

Tuesday, October 27, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

Tuesday, November 17, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

Lloyd Britton	Cheryl Jandreau	Annette Taff
Rebecca Britton	Natalie Kernodle	Michael Taff
Deborah Cooper	Bob Lee	Sue Vining
Buddy Dunn	Linda Lee	Marjean Waters
Susan Dunn	Mildred Rodgers	Lillian Wooldridge
John Grandon	Ann Smith	
Jeanne Guilbeault	Susan Stark	

Mary Lee Crews & Family	Ron Sawyer & Family
James and Donna Faircloth & Family	Ann Smith & Family
Frank Karastury & Family	Barre' and Steve Whittington & Family
Earl & Melonie Phillips & Family	Family of Myra Tucker
Family of Harold Morris	

Extended Church Family

Patricia Waldo	Steve Guilbeault	Robbins Family	Kuester Family
Dora Spires	Willie Ryles	Judy Patterson	Cassie Prochaska
Billy Hill	Kim Jordan	Grier Family	Bruce Chapman
Carol Hall	Charles Holmes	Marilyn Buck	Danny Chidester
Beth Goodwin	McDaniel Family	Stephanie Bryan	Adams Family
Hattie Campbell	Robin Grantham	Dana Thurston	Diane Wiggins
Cristina Mattocks	David Garner	Kathy McClintock	Amanda Kinsman Vines
Ann Mitchell	Patricia Jefferson	Susan Land	Aundre Smith
James & Sue Flowers	Robert Wagers	Sarah Browder	Mary Kennedy
Maggie Smith	Hazel Dullin	Family of Neil Gergun	Janna Family
Roger Buterbaugh	Diane Propst	Ralph & Sandy McGough	
George Bowen	Martha Bone	Danny Snider & Family	Davis/Osborne Family
Tammy White	Sam Wilson	Michelle Slappy	Linda Walker
Bertha Robinson	Nona Robinson	Rev. Tim Paulk	Chester Jakes

Independent/Assisted Living/Nursing Home

Oaks @ Maple Ridge - Helen Pharris	The Lodge (Bessemer, AL) - Lorene Carlisle
Kings Bridge (Atlanta, GA) - Blount King	Wesley Glen (Byron, GA) - Nancy Hiller
River Place - Anne Wilson	
Oaks @ Grove Park - Ron Sawyer	

Tree of Life Memorial
for Epworth UMC and Hamp Stevens UMC

Given by The Friendship Class in memory of Jean F. Morris
whose generosity and caring spirit made this world a better place.

You may remember a family member or friend, now deceased, on the lasting Tree of Life Memorial that graces the entrance of our Sanctuary. Consider commemorating their life with a leaf placed on this handcrafted piece of art.

Memorials can be made for members of the Epworth United Methodist or Hamp Stevens United Methodist churches. Initiated by the Friendship Sunday School to honor Jean’s life, it is carried forward by Epworth’s Board of Trustees.

Complete the section below and return it with your gift made out to Epworth UMC. With limited space, we will only be able to include names on the leaf-no other messages. The minimum donation for an engraved leaf is \$50.

Name of Donor:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Donation Amount:

Names to be Engraved: 5 rows of up to approximately 12 characters on each row

SAMPLE

Sebastian
Williamson

Jim & Jean
Williamson
& Family

Please continue to pray for our homebound people. They would love a call or text!
If the prayer list needs to be updated, please call, email, or leave a note with updates at the church office. Thank you for your help!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 6, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The * Denotes to please stand if able.

PRELUDE Bob Lee, Music Director

ENTER THE LIGHT OF CHRIST Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER Marguerite Hay, Worship Leader

*CONFESSION & PARDON UMH No. 12

People: Merciful God,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

*PRAISE SONG "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH 140 vv. 1 & 3
Led by Susan Dunn, Song Leader

OFFERTORY APPEAL/PRAYER Worship Leader

During the offering, please place your offering in the collection plates as they are passed or text the word "GIVE" to (706) 655-6768.
For our Online Worshipers, text or go to epworthumc.com and select "Donate."
On Communion Sunday, please place your Communion Offering in the basket near the altar.

OFFERTORY SELECTION "More Than Wonderful" David Hay
RESPONSE Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SHARING OF CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS Rev. Earnestine W. Campbell, Pastor

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*SCRIPTURE MATTHEW 17:14-21 Patricia Bronson

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "How Great Is Our God" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #4348399

SERMON SERIES "Word and Wisdom" Pastor

SERMON "What's Wrong With Them?" Pastor

*INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Pastor

You can become a member of Epworth by either professing your Christian faith for the first time or by transferring your existing membership from another Christian church.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION Pastor & Congregation
(See screen)

Invitation UMH No. 12
The Great Thanksgiving UMH No. 13-14
Liturgy
The Lord's Prayer
The Giving of the Bread and Cup UMH No. 14-15

*CLOSING SONG "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power" Praise & Worship Director
UMH 334 vv. 1& 2

*LIGHT OF CHRIST BROUGHT OUT INTO THE WORLD Acolytes

*BENEDICTION Pastor

*POSTLUDE Music Director

COFFEE BAR ON SUNDAYS

Coffee Bar in the Welcome Center:

Enjoy coffee and refreshments for the Sunday School and Worship Service hours every Sunday.
~Donations are appreciated.